

## Commission struggles with jail problems

of their cells after midnight into an area that they shouldn't have been in and got a plate off the wall that someone should have seen them taking off during that time."

Lewis then asked that the commission instruct the county administrator to contact somebody that knows how to build jails, fix jails, put new locks on the [cell] doors... take whatever steps are necessary to fix the doors, fix the vents and whatever needs to be done to the jail to prevent any further escapes."

Commissioner Robert Stephens made a motion to do whatever is necessary to keep the prisoners in jail. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Len Averett.

An amendment to the motion by Commissioner L'Ulymple to use the \$37,000 that had been approved, previously for building construction in this year's budget for this purpose passed by a 6-1 vote. Averett cast the lone opposing vote.

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The sheriff noted that he is willing to take the responsibility upon himself and the members of his staff for the control and control of the inmates placed in the county jail; however, he did say that there is not a correctional facility in existence that is designed and built to hold every person all the time.

"We're going to continue to do what we can, with the help of the commission, to correct these problems to hopefully ensure this [escape] will not happen again," added Sheriff Moates.

The sheriff commented on the problem of the cells not locking by noting that the computerized system which indicates to the jailer if a cell door is not secure has been

**Small ads are read . . .  
... see, you are reading this one!**

### Tips For Getting On Line

(NAPS)—By learning more about what you can get online, you may be in line for some savings. Not all Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are alike. Here's what to look for:

1. You don't have to spend a lot to get online. Some providers, such as Surfice.com, offer unlimited Internet access for as low as \$14.95 per month (20 to 40 percent lower than most).

2. Look for unlimited dial-up Internet access with speeds up to 56K. There should be no set-up fees or usage limits applied and members should be able to access their account from a wide variety of phone numbers.

3. Email should be free. Additional free services are included by the top providers.

4. Customer support should be available 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week with a toll-free number. Some ISPs also allow you to try the service without risk. Surfice.com, for example, comes with a 30-day money back guarantee.

5. Some services even pay you for referring friends and family. Surfice.com pays members \$20 for each new member referred.

To sign up or order free start-up software, visit [www.surfice.com](http://www.surfice.com) or call 888/678-7373.

**Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home sponsoring cancer detection program**

The Breast & Cervical Cancer early Detection Program of Alabama is being sponsored locally by the Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home.

Women who meet the income guidelines below:

A woman who meets the eligibility requirements receives: A FREE pelvic exam and pap smear; A FREE clinical breast exam; and a FREE mammogram (age 50 and older).

**Income Eligibility Guidelines**

The following numbers represent the household size and annual, monthly and weekly incomes respectively:

1 \$16,480 \$13,373 \$317  
2 \$22,120 \$18,433 \$425  
3 \$27,760 \$23,313 \$534  
4 \$33,400 \$27,833 \$642  
5 \$39,040 \$32,553 \$751  
6 \$44,680 \$37,723 \$859

For more information concerning the program and to register, call Jan Wicker at 897-2257 ext. 225.

•Women who meet the income guidelines below:

A woman who meets the eligibility requirements receives: A FREE pelvic exam and pap smear; A FREE clinical breast exam; and a FREE mammogram (age 50 and older).

•Primarily women age 40 and older.

•Women without insurance or who are uninsured

## City Council moves forward with improvement projects

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## EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS  
With Ferrin Cox

Tuesday was election day in Alabama, or more correctly, it was voting day. The only item on the ballot was the increase in corporate income tax to 6.5%, and the interest from the voting public was almost nil. There is natural opposition to additional taxes, and this one was no exception. Many people on the streets were complaining about the cost of holding the special election just for this one issue, especially when regular elections will be held in May, while others just knew this was really a hidden tax on them personally. The bottom line was a bundle of voter apathy.

The issue of allowing religious groups to be official public school organizations continues to stir debate. We don't have the ultimate answer but share the concerns of school officials that to officially recognize any religious group would open the door for the cults, witches, etc. A Letter to the Editor this week points out that these types usually like to work in the dark. That is true, but exceptions abound. Look at what happened in Uganda several days ago... hundreds of men, women and children in that religious cult group died in a fire, inside a locked building that was officially registered with the government and openly practicing their offbeat religion. Their beliefs, or the beliefs of their leader, included the idea the world was coming to an end on December 31, 1999... then saying oops, we meant December 31, 2000, etc. Somehow in their twisted thinking they were to do their part toward ending the world by committing suicide. Now Uganda officials are re-examining their rules allowing these people to organize and meet openly. People need to work with God more than is done today - and openly, but is American society ready to embrace the other established world religions in our schools and at the same time protect our citizens from the likes of those who died in that terrible fire last week in Africa?

We have our own personal opinions dealing with the death of the little six year old Ramsey girl in Colorado a couple of years ago. Our opinion of the child's parents didn't improve a bit now that they are out promoting the book they have written giving their so-called "theory" on how the murder happened in their home during that fateful Christmas holiday. Hogwash!

It is a bit frightening to find Hillary Clinton promoting something which we have written about previously here in this column. However, a stopped clock is right twice a day and so we will graciously accept Lady Hillary's support. Recently she expressed concern over the possible misuse of the drug Ritalin on active young children. Our position is a bit harsher in that we strongly believe it is often used on the child for the convenience of the parent who doesn't have the inclination nor time to deal with a normal, growing, active youngster. The innocence of a happy childhood is muted when parents talk a doctor into prescribing this numbing drug for the sole purpose of quieting down normal children. Then we suspect some parents use the drug when a hand on the butt would have done more to train the child to mind their manners. Oh well, good luck on this one Hillary.

Electon year politics in Coffee County are getting off to a mighty slow start this year. Even though the Republican nominations have been underway for over a month and the Democrats for two weeks, very few candidates have yet to pay their fees and sign up, even though several have told us they are running hard for election or re-election. Oh well, politics has changed drastically during the past 30 years and this is probably just another of those changes. It may also mean that none of us will get burnt out with political promises between now and election day!

**Got Something To Sell??  
Try The Classified Section  
of  
The Elba Clipper**

## ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of March 14, 2000 through March 20, 2000. They were: Lillian Pynes, Shannon Cattrell, Ellis Edkins, Doug Armstrong, Arkie Hodge, Hester McGowan, Ruth Harrelson, Venilia Boutil, Lillian Childs, Willis Ray Chism, Francis H. Johnson, Gloria Nowling, Joyce Johnson, Robert Whately, Ruth Harrelson, Gloria Nowling, Lenora Burks, Tiffany Parrish, Lillian Pynes, Lorenzo Johnson, Mary Robert Whately, Andrew Bryan, Estelle Divine, Rosa Tyson, Alberta Divine, Alberta Martin, Justin Simmons, Lorena Johnson, Annise Coleman, Rosa Lee Tyson, Mary Dawson, Andrew Bryan, and Pam Barton. Johnson, Hudson Ennis, Lois

Chandler, Pam Barton, Charles Watson, and Minnie Matthews.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Cathan

First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

1st Floor, Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Elba City Council Hall

## CHURCH



**THE ELBA FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD DRAMA TEAM** participated in the Southeast Alabama District Fine Arts Competition on March 4. There were 32 teams competing and Elba received second place with superior ratings and an invitation to compete on the state level. Pictured are: (kneeling from left) Anna Anderson, Kent Hobbs, Lyndsay Lawford, Kaci Grantham; (2nd row) Darren Dawkins, Chris Summerlin, Kaleb Dyess, Natasha Brooks, Tracy Banks; (3rd row) Rick Smith, Betsy Adkinson, Katie Dyess, Natasha Bannin, Josi Lawford. Also participating in the Female Solo division was Lauren Moore who received superior ratings with an invitation to compete on the state level.

**Harris Temple C.O.G.I.C.**  
Workshop Appreciation  
Service to be held

Harris Temple C.O.G.I.C. will host a Workshop Appreciation Service on Saturday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. Clinicians will be Elder W. K. Ellison and Bro. Marcus Rose. The workshop rehearsals will begin at 6:30 p.m. nightly. There will be registration fee of \$5.

## NOTICE

## One night Revival to be held at EHS auditorium on March 24th

The Elba High School Auditorium will be the site of an One Night Revival on Friday, March 24, at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Roy Turner, pastor of Vanderbilt Holiness Church. Special singing from Steady Standerers. Master's

Call: Derek Snellgrove, Jody and Charlene Liles, and many more. There will be no admission charge, but a love offering will be received. For more information, call 897-3778.

Worship in the Church of your Choice This Sunday!

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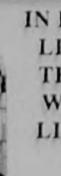
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IN HIM WAS  
LIFE AND  
THE LIFE  
WAS THE  
LIGHT OF  
MEN

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Class.....6:30 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH  
Darryl Caldwell, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH  
Elbert Smith, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m.

CHRISTIAN GROVE METHODIST  
CHURCH  
Reverend Abbott, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday School.....11:30 a.m.

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays.....11:30 a.m.

Sunday School.....12:30 p.m.

Elba First Assembly of God

Rev. John I. Baster, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m.

Elba First United Methodist

Church

Rev. Robert P. Pastor

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

Elba Zion Baptist Church

J. L. Grayer, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service.....7:30 p.m.

Fairview Baptist Church

Danny Sherrill, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service.....7:30 p.m.

Mt. Olive children &  
youth to present  
Easter Program April 9th

The children and youth ministry,  
along with members of Mt. Olive  
Baptist Church, will present a dra-  
matic Easter program on Sunday,  
April 9, at 6 p.m.

"A Walk to the Cross" offers a  
touching look at Jesus Christ mov-  
ing in the hearts of the people He  
walked with, ultimately laying  
down His life for all.

Everyone is invited to attend this  
special program. Mt. Olive Baptist  
Church is located on County Road  
355, Elba (Pine Level Community).

Vanderbilt Holiness Church

Church to host  
gospel singing

Vanderbilt Holiness Church will  
have a gospel singing Saturday,  
March 25, beginning at 6 p.m. fea-  
turing Coleen Beasley from Head-  
land, Ala. Everyone is invited to attend.  
Vanderbilt Holiness Church is located  
on Coffee County Road 114, one mile past Southland.

PASTOR'S CORNER  
REV. HOMER MOORE  
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

## "My joy, Your joy"

JOHN 15:11

"These things I have spoken to  
you, that my joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be made full."

What was the joy that Jesus had?

The joy that Jesus possessed was

His absolute solitude to His

father.

His joy came to Him just

knowing that He was doing what

His Father had sent Him to do.

Heb. 12:2, tells us that:

"...who for the joy that was set

before Him endured the cross..."

Psalm 40:8, says, "delight to do  
your will, O Lord, Giver of Good."

What would you do if you had

the power of God?

Everyone is invited to attend this

special program.

Mt. Olive Baptist Church is

located on County Road

355, Elba (Pine Level Community).

by the name of Norman Cousins

which is known for bringing

and laughter in the lives of many

through his writing on true life

experiences. He had been invited

by a group of physicians to meet

with cancer patients at a hospital.

He told how he had lost a quarter in a

a pay phone. "Operator," he said,

"I put in a quarter and didn't get my

number." She said, "Sir, if you will

give me your name and address,

we'll mail the coin to you." So he

received a full and long lengthy

response with steps to take

to get his coin back.

He was so impressed that he

had to pay his bill.

He then paid his bill.</p

# Community News

## Bowers achieves Eagle Scout status

Sunday, Feb. 27, at First Baptist Church, Elba, Gregory P. Bowers of Boy Scout Troop 37 was honored with Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held to recognize Greg's accomplishment of a goal achieved by only 3 percent of young men who enter Scouting.

To achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, a candidate must fulfill several requirements. A candidate must progress through the ranks of Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle. He must spend a minimum of 16 months in the final three ranks. A Scout must also hold leadership positions and spend many hours in community service.

An Eagle Scout must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges and complete a community service project.



Gregory P. Bowers is shown giving a speech of appreciation to all who helped him achieve the highest rank in Scouting, the Eagle Scout Award.



Frances M. Bradshaw retires after more than 41 years of service...Frances (L) was presented an engraved gold watch by her supervisor, Bill Hall, upon her recent retirement. She worked at Dorsey Trailers for more than 41 years.

Frances worked in engineering for many years but more recently worked as a buyer in the purchasing department.

## Honey Bee meeting planned for April 6 in New Brockton

Jerry and Linda Boblenz of New Brockton will be holding a honey bee meeting on Thursday, April 6, 2000, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Room at the Farm Center in New Brockton. They are very knowledgeable bee keepers and are interested in starting a local honey bee keeping club. The closest club at this time is in Dothan. Bee keeping can be a tremendous hobby or business for all ages. If you are interested in this club or just interested in learning more about honey bees this meeting is for you. For more information you are welcome to call Jerry and Linda Boblenz at 894-5672.

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## ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006



Scripture: 2 Kings 14:1-29

Thinking of you, praying for you: Jo Ann Warren, Lester McGowan, The Gibson and Barnes families, Hannah Coleman, Nettie Cole, Hattie Bell Carpenter, Pearlie Tillis, Collis Belcher, Virginia Barnes, Rev Henry Ewing Jr.

\*\*\*Mulberry Matrons Spring Tea

will be held March 26 at the Mulberry Educational Building in Elba at 6:30 p.m. Rev. J.G. Chatmon will be the moderator.

She is a vocational business education teacher at Sheffield High School.

Johnson resides in Tuscaloosa with her husband, Ots Johnson, who is the principal of the New Sheffield Middle School. They have two children: Kathryn, a freshman at Alabama State University (Montgomery), and Theo, a graduate of A.M.E. Church, Opp, Ala.

\*\*\*Annual Family and Friends Day to be held at Bethel Baptist Church in Elba on Sunday, March 26, at 3 p.m. Speaker will be Rev. Randy Sewell, Piney Grove MBC, Webb, Ala.

\*\*\*Nazareth Baptist Church, Opp, Ala., is hosting a Special Love Benefit for Yalchumantaceah "Neeyah" Henderson on March 25 at 7 p.m.

"Neeyah" is the 3-year-old who was recently diagnosed with cancer in her abdomen. She is the daughter of Christie Henderson of Opp and the granddaughter of Gloria "Cookie" Henderson. "Neeyah" has to travel to Birmingham for her treatments.

All choirs, groups, soloists and duets are invited to come be a part of this special program.

\*\*\*Visitors: Those visiting Mrs. Hattie Bell Carpenter, Lucinda and Eric Belcher recently were: Milton Spencer, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Janice, Ashley and Colby Curtis, Orlando, Fla.; Tina Anderson, Tara Kennedy and Cammie, Jacksonville, Fla.; Kimberly Belcher, Mary B. Gandy, Darrell Belcher and Joshua Coleman, Gant, Ala.; Jackie Dunn and Dimitri Crittenden (Schookey), Augusta, Ga.

Today is a good day, be grateful!

and Ree Nita, LaShawn Robinson, Myron Duncan, Maria, Brandon, Brandy, Tiffany and Lydia, Otis Johnson, Anthony Kelley, Tonya Smith, Tyrone Kelley, Margo and Winston, Michael Manning and Evelyn, Jason Guley, Mason Guley, Robert Belcher Jr., Foy Belcher and Johnnie and Eria Lindsey Belcher.

\*\*\*Welcome to the Annual Youth Day and Revival of the Goshen First Baptist Church. Youth Day will be Sunday, April 2, at 11 a.m. with speaker, Rev. Jonas Rogers. The youth revival will be Monday, April 3, through Wednesday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The speaker will be Rev. Roderick Caldwell, associate pastor of St. Stephens A.M.E. Church, Opp, Ala.

\*\*\*Annual Family and Friends Day to be held at Bethel Baptist Church in Elba on Sunday, March 26, at 3 p.m. Speaker will be Rev. Randy Sewell, Piney Grove MBC, Webb, Ala.

As assistant pastor of Hopewell CPCA (Leighton, Ala.), Rev. Johnson hopes to continue to fulfill her calling through preaching and caring ministries.

\*\*\*Annual Missionary Day Program

Annual Missionary Day was celebrated at Goshen First Baptist Church on Sunday, March 19, at 11 a.m. Minister Joyce Johnson, assistant pastor of Hopewell Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Leighton, Ala., was this guest minister. Those attending this occasion from Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, Elba, Opp, New Brockton, Enterprise and Glenwood were: Mr. and Mrs. Elder Majestic McDuffie, Rev. J. Belcher, Isiah and Grace Franklin and niece, Ernestine Kelley, Jana, Melissa, Kimberly and Wesley, Wallace and Mattie Belcher, Christopher West, Michelle, Ebony and Justin, Inez Long, Minister Robert Edwards, Estella Lawrence, Rev. Mrs. Rogers, Minister Pamela Mitchell, Patti Culver, Topia and Bria, Alan Belcher, Wiley Brooks, Juanita, Dee Nard

Minister Joyce Johnson ordained to serve as assistant minister at Hopewell CPCA

Minister Joyce Johnson was recently ordained to become the assistant pastor of Hopewell Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

Born the fourth of nine children in Elba, Ala., Joyce realized at a very early age that she had a calling on her life. Her parents, Graver and Era Belcher, provided a Christian home, Christian training and Chris-

# SCHOOLS

## DAR Honors Josh Lawford

by Emilee Qualls

Josh Lawford, a Senior at Elba High School, was recently named Coffee County DAR.

Josh was named DAR at Elba High School by the recommendations of the DAR members of the students. He received an envelope in the mail and wrote a three-page essay on Patriotism. Josh was only allowed 45 minutes to write this essay. The meeting was at the home of Nancy Brinson.

Josh was chosen Coffee County DAR from all the schools in Coffee County.

He won the honor by writing the essay and also by community leadership, grades, and recommendations.

### Elba Elementary School Menu April 3 - 7, 2000

#### BREAKFAST

**Monday** - Cinnamon Toast, Applesauce, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**Tuesday** - Pancakes, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**Wednesday** - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**Thursday** - Breakfast Pizza, 1/2 Apple, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**Friday** - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk

#### LUNCH

**Monday** - Chicken Nuggets, Green Salad, Potato Salad, Applesauce, Roll, Milk

**Tuesday** - Hamburger, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Mixed Salad

**Wednesday** - Bar-B-Q Chicken, Rice, Cole Slaw, Bread, 1/2 Orange, Milk

**Thursday** - Vegetable Beef Soup, 1/2 Apple, Cereal, Juice, Milk

**Friday** - Hot Dog, Potato Rounds, Field Peas, Banana, Milk

## Jump In Jump Out & Introduce Yourself!



by Natasha Bannin

This week's Co-op Spotlight focuses on Carey Holloway. Carey is employed at Elba Elementary School where she does clerical work.

Carey is the daughter of Matt and Judy Holloway and is a junior at Elba High. She is a member of VICA, Spanish Club, and Girl Scout Troop #400. After high school, Carey plans to attend college and major in Orthodontics.

#### SALUTE!!

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## \* Meet Our Faculty \*

by Katie Vaughan

This week's "Meet Our Faculty" spotlight is Wynn Grimes.

Mr. Grimes graduated from Elba High School. He then attended Tuskegee University and majored in Social Science Education. He now teaches World History and U.S. History. He is the head coach of the varsity baseball team. He also coaches varsity football.

Mr. Grimes enjoys playing softball and fishing. But if he isn't in the classroom, on the baseball field, on the football team, or catching bass somewhere, he is more than likely at the golf course.

Fellow teachers agree that, "Wynn is obsessed with golf."

When asked what he liked best about Elba, Mr. Grimes replied, "I went to school here, and I loved it."



Now I teach here, and I still love it. I will always be an Elba tiger."

## Learning About Leadership

by Amy Kirkland

Members of the EHS Student Government Association recently took a trip to Auburn University to attend a Leadership Conference.

The purpose of the trip was to allow the students to learn about leadership skills and fundraising ideas.

Neil Grantham, who attended the conference, said he attended several sessions and learned about being a leader.

There was a total of 40 schools participation in the event, from high schools all around Alabama.



NEIL GRANTHAM

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# SPORTS

Views from...

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie has been playing softball ever since she was old enough to swing a bat, but until last week she had never had a new glove of her own. She didn't have to wear her sister's hand-me-downs since big sister was left-handed, but somehow we always managed to find an old glove somewhere that was in good enough condition, and Melanie never complained and used what ever glove she had. Last week Melanie asked for a "new glove," and there was no way I could turn her down. So, she now has a new glove of her own, and maybe she will be able to keep up with it for many years to come, and hopefully it will serve her well.

### THUMBING THROUGH A DESK FILLED WITH NOTES...

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers bounced back from a disappointing loss to Red Level last Tuesday to defeat Slocumb 9-8 to push their record for the season to 5-2, 2-0 in Area 3 play. The Tigers won their 1st pitching punch of Brooks Creel and Brandon Salter rocked for a total of 24 hits and 14 runs in the two games. However, the biggest concern of Coach Wynn Grimes after the week's action was the lack of overall team hitting. He was obviously referring to the bases loaded in the bottom of the seventh in the loss to Red Level, and said that his players had to get more aggressive, and quit waiting for the umpire to make a call. The Tigers are off to one of their best starts in years, and if the pitching can continue to improve, and the bats wake up a little, they could be looking at a really big season.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers finished their 1st game in the Andalusia High School Invitational with a record of 3-2 and to claim third place in the 12-team tournament. The Lady Tigers pounded the softball in their opening three wins and scored a total of 54 runs in the three games, but then managed to score only one run in a loss to G.W. Long, and were eventually eliminated by the same Red Level team that they had rapped only two games earlier. The Lady Tigers left the tourney with a 6-2 record for the season, and both the players and coaches now know just where improvements have to be made. With six seniors and four juniors in the starting line-up, the Lady Tigers certainly have the maturity and experience to make those adjustments, and to keep on winning.

\*\*\* The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will host its first ever youth softball camp on Saturday, April 1. The cost is \$15.00 and will be free for children ages 6-12. Campers will be divided into three different groups: Girls League, an Elba resident that has a very popular camp early each spring, will head up the camp, while coaches in the ladies and high school baseball players will join in and give those players taking part individual instruction. It is hoped that the camp will become an annual event, and everyone is invited to come out and watch these youngsters continue their learning process in the sport.

\*\*\* I have never been one that believed in naming places after people, but last week I met with Elba High School principal Danny Wynn and once again expressed my firm belief that the Elba Tigers should play football on "Mack Wood Field." The school officials can keep the stadium named "Tiger Stadium," but Coach Wood was the winningest coach ever in the history of Elba Tiger football and guided the Tigers to two state championships, and deserves the field named after him. Coach Wood was honored with a plaque for his achievement at the All-Tiger Banquet held after the 1990 flood and through countless hours of work had the field back in shape for the very next season, and helped design and care for the new Tiger Stadium. Over the years it is easy to forget the importance of someone no longer around. By naming the field for Coach Wood, his name and the rich history of Elba Tiger football would be renewed annually every time a team kicked off a new season. Elba fans should know now, more than ever, just what a great coach Mack Wood was, and I urge officials to honor Coach Wood with this honor. He is not only Elba's winningest coach ever, he is also in the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame. Others have honored him, now it's our turn!

\*\*\* In closing, I have been able to watch a few games in the NCAAs tournament, and have been somewhat surprised with the outcome of a few games. There are no real sleepers left, but it is still very much in the air who will make it to the Final Four. I do plan on watching a lot more games this week, and hope to join the madness.

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

### BASEBALL

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Opp at Elba  
Florala at Brantley

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Straughn at Elba

### SOFTBALL

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Elba at Geneva (4:00)  
Samson at Elba JV (3:30)  
Florala at Brantley  
Zion Chapel JV at Headland

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### Tigers outscore Slocumb 9-8 to improve area slate to 2-0

The Elba Tigers came from behind on three separate occasions Friday night to post an exciting 9-8 win over the Slocumb Red Tops, in Elba.

The win improved Elba's record to 5-2, and gave the Tigers a 2-0 slate in Class 3A, Area 3 action.

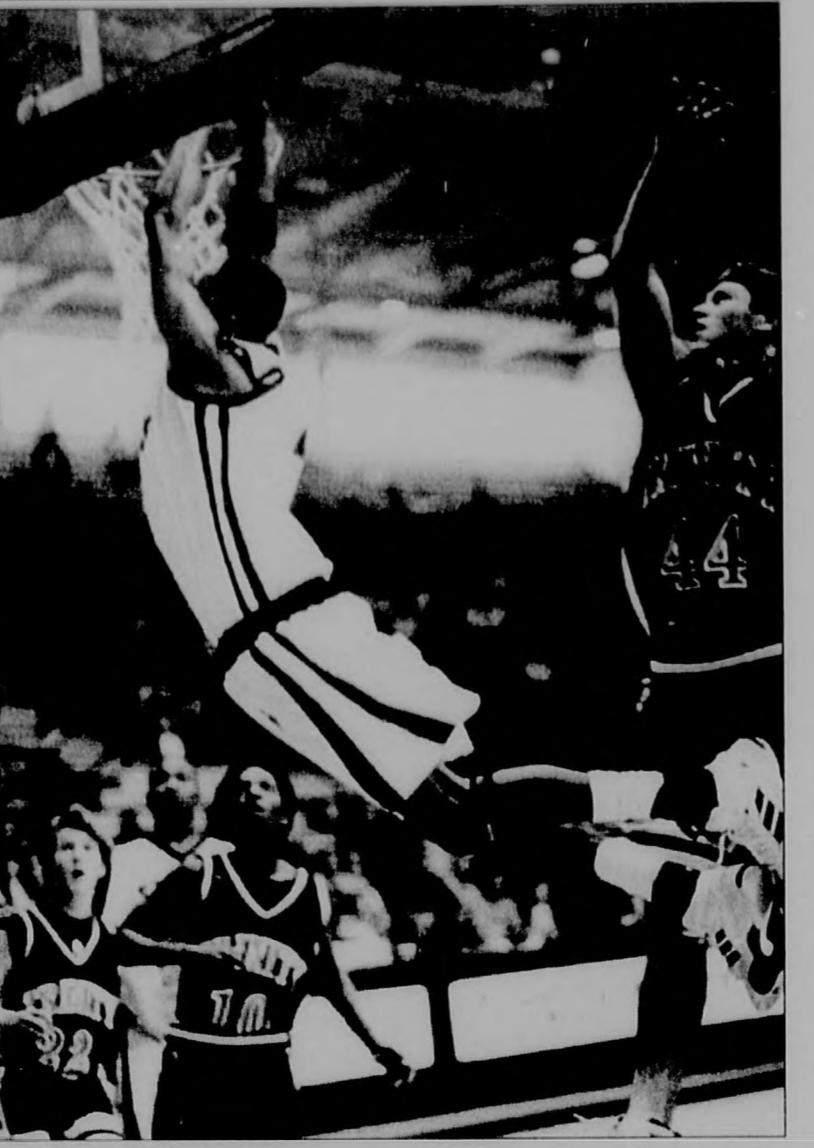
Slocumb mustered three runs in the top of the first to grab a quick lead, only to see the Tigers score two runs in the bottom of the frame to move ahead 9-6.

Kyle English singled, stole second, and raced home on a triple by Jason Curran to pull Elba even at 6-6, while Justin Stinson later delivered a two-run double to put the Tigers back on top at 8-6. Stinson scored on a sacrifice fly off the bat of Brandon Salter, and after four innings Elba was ahead to stay with a 9-6 advantage.

The Tigers got on the scoreboard when Brooks Creel singled, stole second, and then raced home on a triple by Brandon Stinson. Stinson later scored on a wild pitch, and after one inning of play the Red Tops were on top 3-2.

The Tigers increased its lead to 5-2 in the top of the second, but the Tigers again bounced right back, and this time scored three runs of their own to pull into a 5-5 tie.

A walk to Pete Manning, a single by Kyle English and a walk to Jason Curran loaded the bases for Elba with no outs, and all three Tiger runners crossed the plate when Brooks Creel delivered a



### Lady Tigers win three games, place third in Andalusia softball tourney

Red Level. The Lady Tigers came out swinging the bats and combining d'fives hit with five walks to grab a 6-0 first inning advantage! Melissa Grantham knocked in two runs with a single, while Melissa Mu Larz and Rosanna McKinnon also delivered key hits that resulted in Elba runs. Red Level cut the Elba lead to 6-5 in the top of the third, however, and Elba bounded right back on the bottom of the inning after d'plated five runs of its own to re-gain command with an 11-5 lead. Melissa Mularz opened the inning with a single to get the rally started, while a hit by the leadoff in the second was a bases-loaded triple by Casey Skinner. Red Level scored runs late to keep its hopes alive, but the Lady Tigers never quit scoring and rolled to the win.

Racean McCollough got 3 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Melissa Mularz added 3 hits, scored 2 runs and also collected 2 rbi's. Casey Skinner added 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs, while also getting 2 hits were Rachel Bludworth and Aubretta Williams.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

#### ELBA 17 BRANTLEY 0

The Elba Lady Tigers exploded for 12 runs in the third inning to bury the Brantley Lady Bulldogs 17-0, in opening round action. Elba had jumped out to an early 3-lead in the opening round thanks to a triple by Melinda Mularz.

Melissa Grantham and moved ahead 5-0 in the second with Racean McCollough and Oneida Davis both collecting triple by Casey Skinner. The Lady Tigers pounded out 10 hits in the big third inning, with Rachel Bludworth leading the way with two singles, while Melissa Mularz drove in two runs with a double and Rosanna McKinnon also added a double that knocked in two runs.

Rachel Bludworth got 3 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Rosanna McKinnon, Melissa Grantham, Michelle Daniels and Oneida Davis all added 2 hits. Brantley, which managed only five hits in the loss, was led by D'Burnett with two singles.

#### ELBA 9 BRANTLEY 1

The Elba Lady Tigers managed only eight hits and committed eight errors as G.W. Long held Elba to 9-1 loss in the final of the winners bracket. Elba trailed only 3-1 in the top of the fourth after a sacrifice fly by Rachel Bludworth knocked in Kendra Vaughan. However, Long pushed across three unearned runs in the bottom of the frame to move ahead 6-1, and held on for the win.

Kendra Vaughan and Rosanna McKinnon both got 2 hits to lead Elba.

#### ELBA 1 WICKSBURG 4

The Elba Lady Tigers spotted the Wicksburg Lady Panthers an early 2-0 lead, but the Panthers came back to post a wild 19-4 win. Elba trailed 2-0 before getting a chance to bat, but quickly erased the early deficit as Vaughan Boyd tripled to open the bottom of the first, and then by the time the first inning was over the Lady Tigers had moved a head 4-2. Elba continued to swing the bats in the second inning, as the Lady Tigers combined 9 hits with two walks to plate eight runs and grab a big 12-2 advantage. Red Level scored three runs in the fourth to break back ahead 9-8, and then plated ten runs in the fifth to take complete control and win the game.

Players should bring their own gloves and wear baseball shoes to the games, and while preregistration is not required, it is recommended to allow camp sponsors a chance to better prepare for instruction.

The camp, which is for players and coaches in the various Elba youth baseball leagues, will be held in three age divisions. Players ages 6-8 will take part on Saturday morning from 10:00 until 12:00 (noon), followed by players ages 9-10 from 1:00 until 3:00 p.m. Players ages 11-12 will receive instruction from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m.

Registration forms will be available at the Elba Recreation Center and City Hall, and it is important to remember that the camp is FREE!

Players should bring their own

gloves and wear baseball shoes to the games, and while preregistration is not required, it is recommended to allow camp sponsors a chance to better prepare for instruction.

The camp will be taught by Greg Hanchey, a former junior college baseball player at L.W. Junior College, with other instructors to include former high school players from the area.

Registration forms will be available at the Elba Recreation Center and City Hall, and it is important to remember that the camp is FREE!

Players should bring their own

### PREP DIAMOND NOTES

New Brockton Gamecocks stun Geneva 5-4

The New Brockton Gamecocks improved their record to 2-1 last Tuesday afternoon with a surprising 5-4 win over the 4A Geneva Panthers. Jason McKenzie got 2 hits, including a two-run double to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Matt Windham added 2 hits. Kellen Cole, Tyler Simmons, Jeremy Mack and Randy Danford all added 1 hit in the win. Jason Caradino notched the mound win as he allowed four runs on four hits, walked six and struck-out seven.

Melissa Skinner got 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Melissa Grantham also added 2 hits and Rosanna McKinnon scored 3 runs.

Rosanna McKinnon got 3 hits, scored 3 runs and collected 3 rbi's to lead the Lady Tigers in the tournament, while Melissa Grantham added 8 hits and knocked in 10 runs, and Vaughan Boyd also added 8 hits and scored 7 runs. Racean McCollough and Rachel Bludworth both got 7 hits for Elba, while Kendra Vaughan, Casey Skinner and Melissa Mularz all added 3 hits each.

New Brockton falls to Houston County 14-4

The New Brockton Gamecocks fell behind early and never recovered Saturday afternoon as they fell to the Houston County Lions 14-4, in Columbia. Pete Harrison got 3 hits to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Kellen Cole took the loss on the mound. Adam Tucker hit two home-runs, his ninth and tenth of the season, to lead the (7-6) Lions.

### SUPPORT LADY TIGER SOFTBALL

The Elba Lady Tigers remained undefeated late Saturday afternoon with a high-scoring 18-11 win

# AREA NEWS

### AEC selects Washington youth tour winners

Three high school juniors from area schools in local municipalities have been selected winners in the Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) Washington Youth Tour program. The winners will represent AEC at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour program in Washington, D.C., in June.

Colin Brooks, son of Bob and Denise Brooks, of Andalusia High School, Bethany Dye, daughter of Tony and Shirley Dye, of Elba High School and Laura Bunchick, daughter of Tracy and Mark Bunchick, of Ophelia High School were selected as winners following an interview and written test competition March 7 at AEC's corporate headquarters in Andalusia.

While in Washington, the local winners will join more than 1,000 students from across the nation and attend seminars with national rural electric cooperative leaders, meetings with their state's representatives in Congress and tours of historic sites in the nation's capital.

Runners-up in the Youth Tour competition were Leslie Bonner, daughter of Mark and Cindy Bonner, of Andalusia High School; Amber Norris, daughter of Pamela Head and first alternate Cammie Kelley.

Alternates for Elba High School in AEC's Youth Tour interview and test competition were: first alternate Cammie Kelley, daughter of Jerry and Theresa Kelley, second alternate Alan Head, son of Thomas and Sybil Head, and third alternate Carson Waters, son of Mike and Susie Waters.

As sponsor of the Washington Youth Tour program for 16 years, AEC has played a vital role in providing leadership and education from its members-municipalities — the Alabama cities of Andalusia, Elba and Opp with a better understanding of rural electrification and its importance to central and south Alabama.

To qualify for the program, each participant prepared a research paper on some aspect of rural electrification. Students also had to answer in a single paragraph "What is the difference between an electric cooperative and a power company?" The research papers were judged on content and knowledge of subject matter, and finalists participated in an interview and written test competition to determine the winners, runners-up and alternates.



YEARS OF SERVICE...Willie J. Raymond (L) is shown with his supervisor, David Sasser (R), as he is presented an engraved gold watch upon his recent retirement after having worked at Dorsey Trailers for more than 21 years. Mr. Raymond worked as an assembler.



Catfish Queens excited about upcoming festival

Habitat for Humanity "Ground Breaking Banquet" will be Saturday, April 8, at 7 p.m. The banquet will be held at Elba High School. Tickets are \$7 each and can be purchased at the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

Miss Catfish Festival Catherine Caushay, Jr. Miss Sami Jo Phillips and Little Miss Sloan Cottet invite everyone to be part of the millennium Catfish Festival. Arts, crafts, food and entertainment booths will be set up by 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, in downtown Andalusia. The festival will come through at 9 a.m. to close the street fair. The fun and food for all local residents, along with a talent contest, will provide a beginning for the other events such as the Little Miss, Jr. Miss and Miss Catfish Festival Pageant and the huge catfish fair. In addition to the booth games for children, there will be several free activities to help make this an affordable day of fun, family fun.

There is no admission charge to enter the festival. Booth spaces are available at \$20 each. Parade entry is free and all area groups and queens are invited to participate. Queen applications are available, the entry fee is \$20. For additional information, call Debra at 762-2019 or Jackie at 762-2266.

Vertical Horizon to perform at Troy State University April 5

Troy State University will present the alternative rock band Vertical Horizon in concert Wednesday, April 5.

The outdoor concert is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. at the Adams Student Center, with Angry Salad serving as the opening act. Tickets are free to TSU students with valid university identification or \$10 to the general public. For ticket information, contact the Adams Center Union Board at (334) 670-3207.

Other area players named "All-State" included (1st Team) Karenne Johnson of Eufaula; Lynsey Garrett, of Cottontown; Lashers Lane of Geneva; Bobby Coleman, of Pleasant Home; DeMario Willy, of Brantley; (2nd Team) Terry Horton, of Carroll; Kala Peak, of Geneva; LaKeisha Person of Clayton; Kellen Cole, of New Brockton; Katrina Crabtree, of Calhoun; and Jessica Weathers, of Red Level.

Other area players named "All-State" included (1st Team) Karenne Johnson of Eufaula; Lynsey Garrett, of Cottontown; Lashers Lane of Geneva; Bobby Coleman, of Pleasant Home; DeMario Willy, of Brantley; (2nd Team) Terry Horton, of Carroll; Kala Peak, of Geneva; LaKeisha Person of Clayton; Kellen Cole, of New Brockton; Katrina Crabtree, of Calhoun; and Jessica Weathers, of Red Level.

Inquiries should be made to:

Elba City Board of Education Superintendent Search 131 Tiger Drive Elba, Alabama 36323

Candidates must have earned a Masters degree from an accredited four-year college or university; possess or be eligible to obtain an Alabama Superintendent's Certificate; acquire a minimum of 10 years teaching experience with 5 years in administration, the successful candidate will be expected to reside in the Elba City School district.

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Catfish Queens excited about upcoming festival

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## Ella and Zion Chapel beauty queens crowned



Future Little Miss Elba...From left to right: Brionna Jackson, 1st runner-up; Katelyn Hutto, Future Little Miss Elba; Anna Marie Neal, 2nd runner-up.



MISS  
ELBA 2000  
Valiece Moore

Not pictured are:  
Cammie Kelley, 1st  
runner-up and  
Kimberly Ward, 2nd  
runner-up.



Future Little Miss Zion Chapel...From left to right: Aspin Mauldin, 1st runner-up; Sierra Parker, Future Little Miss Zion Chapel; Breanna Nelson, 2nd runner-up.



Little Miss Elba...From left to right: Breanna Jackson, 1st runner-up; Molly McGuire, Little Miss Elba; Anna Marie Neal, 2nd runner-up.



Jr. Miss Elba...From left to right: Anna Anderson, 1st runner-up; Lauren Moore, Jr. Miss Elba; Mary Katherine Head, 2nd runner-up.



Future Little Miss Zion Chapel...From left to right: Paige Gibson, 1st runner-up; Hillary Williams, 2nd runner-up.



Jr. Miss Zion Chapel...From left to right: Kayla Edmonson, 1st runner-up; Cammie Kelley, 1st runner-up; Sierra Parker, Jr. Miss Zion Chapel; Sarah Stephens, Jr. Miss Zion Chapel.

Congratulations to everyone who competed in the 2000 Miss Elba and Zion Chapel Pageants!!

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Wedding Plans

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Dustin Stinson  
Connects For A  
Double

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 42

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama Thursday, March 30, 2000

1 Section, 16 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

### City of Elba receives \$106,580 grant to begin improvement study on Beaver Dam and Moore's Creek drainage problems

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council had very little business to conduct Monday evening, but the business they did conduct was very important for the people of Elba.

City elections this year will be held on August 22 and the run-off (if any) will be held on September 12th. Voting hours will be from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. These dates fall between state and county party primaries and the November General Election.

The council agreed to purchase two new police cars under the state bid price, if still available, using some recently approved state grant money. Police Chief R. W. Whitworth explained that the deadline for ordering current model year cars from the state bid has passed, but Elba can probably take the cars ordered by someone else who did not get grant approvals. The council voted to follow this direction if possible.

This will reward students with cash money for reporting situations which are in violation of the law or could lead to violence on the school campus.

The local DARE program recently received a \$1,000 grant, thanks to the efforts of Representative Spiner.

Chief Whitworth showed the council members copies of a letter of appreciation from District Attorney Mark Fulller for the excellent work in recent drug convictions.

The council also named Councilman Winzel Gray as the official voting delegate to the Alabama League of Municipalities Convention in Birmingham.

Whitworth informed the

Jimmy Holley for Elba's success in securing the grant for these new police cars.

The Chief also told council members that the police department will be receiving a new breath testing machine within the next few days. He said officers are being trained to use the equipment properly and will be ready when it arrives.

The Elba Police Department and 12th Judicial Circuit are combining efforts to launch "Operation SAVE" or Students Against Violence in Education.

Once the analysis (study) is completed, additional FEMA funds can be obtained to complete the flood prevention work called for in the comprehensive study.

The grant is being administered through the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, which has done extensive work in Elba and Coffee County during recent years.

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Whitworth informed the

council members of recent approval of a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant in the amount of \$106,580.

This grant is for a Phase I Analysis of Beaver Dam Creek (canal) and Moore's Creek in the city's continuing efforts to floodproof all sections of Elba if possible.

This study is the first stage of a project to improve the water flow in the two creeks during heavy rains, thus eliminating additional flood threats.

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